

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 SSO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 AID-05 /113 W

----- 085120

R 181247Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2216

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0567

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: LIBYANS CALL FOR FORMATION OF "REVOLUTIONARY PALESTINIAN
GOVERNMENT" BASED IN LIBYA, ARAFAT SIDESTEPS AN ANSWER

1. ARAFAT ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI MAY 15 IN TIME TO JOIN
A LUNCH GIVEN FOR VISITING SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN AT
OFFICER'S CLUB OF EX-WHEELUS AIR BASE. HE CAME TO
ATTEND SEMINAR LIBYANS AND LOCAL PLO REP HAVE ORGANIZED
ON OCCASION OF MAY 15 "PALESTINE USURPATION DAY", AS
IT IS KNOWN HERE. FARUQ QADDUMI AND ABU IYAD ARE
TRAVELLING WITH HIM.

2. JALLUD GAVE OPENING SPEECH TO SEMINAR EVENING OF
MAY 15. SPEAKING HE SAID, ON BEHALF OF QADHAFI AND
RCC, HE CALLED FOR SETTING UP OF A "REVOLUTIONARY
PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT" BASED IN LIBYA. HE ALSO
CALLED FOR CREATION OF "ORGANIZED" PALESTINIAN
ARMY, AND PROPAGANDA APPARATUS.

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3. COMMENT: THIS IS LINE LIBYANS HAVE BEEN TAKING WITH ARAFAT FOR SOME TIME, (CF. FOR EXAMPLE TRIPOLI 1378, 1974). LIBYANS HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY MADE SO EXPLICIT A CALL IN PUBLIC HOWEVER, OR SAID OUTRIGHT THAT PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE BASED IN LIBYA.

4. ARAFAT RESPONDED ("IT IS HARD TO FOLLOW BROTHER ABDESSLAM, SINCE I AM NOT AN ORATOR LIKE HE IS") WITH STANDARD RHETORIC, DUCKING THE QUESTION OF "REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT". HE SAID ONLY HE WAS GLAD JALLUD HAD BROUGHT IT UP, AND THAT MATTER WOULD BE REFERRED TO "PALESTINIAN LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE INSTITUTIONS" FOR STUDY. HE REASSURED JALLUD AND HIS AUDIENCE THAT PALESTINIANS WOULD NEVER "ABANDON THE GUN", I.E. GIVE UP TERRORISM. HE RECALLED THAT HE HAD BEEN TALKING RECENTLY TO PRESIDENT ASAD, WHO HAD TOLD HIM ABOUT A CONVERSATION HE HAD WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER DURING LAST DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. SECRETARY HAD TOLD ASAD THAT TERRORIST OPERATIONS LIKE ATTACK ON SAVOY HOTEL WERE NOT HELPFUL, AND ASAD HAD RESPONDED TO EFFECT THAT "WE WOULD NOT BE TALKING ABOUT THE PALESTINIANS NOW IF IT WERE NOT FOR SUCH OPERATIONS". ARAFAT SAID HE TOLD ASAD THAT WAS JUST WHAT HE WOULD HAVE SAID. "NOTHING WILL EVER COME FROM THE AMERICANS", AS AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND ZIONISM WERE A SINGLE REALITY. "A CERTAIN ARAB CHIEF OF STATE" HAD ASKED HIM RECENTLY, SAID ARAFAT, WHY HE DID NOT MOVE AGAINST DISSIDENT PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS. HE HAD REPLIED THAT HE COULD NEVER BE GUILTY OF ATTACKING HIS BROTHERS. DISAGREEMENTS OVER TACTICS WERE A GOOD THING, PROOF THAT PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT WAS DEMOCRATIC.

5. AFTER PROMPTING FROM ARAFAT, JALLUD CAME BACK TO LECTERN TO SAY SOME NICE THINGS ABOUT HEROIC EGYPTIAN PEOPLE AND HEROIC EGYPTIAN ARMED FORCES, THROWING IN SIMILAR REFERENCES TO SYRIANS, JORDANIANS, AND LEBANESE FOR BALANCE. HE DID NOT MENTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HEROIC EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT, AND NEITHER DID ARAFAT.

6. BOTH JALLUD AND ARAFAT REPEATEDLY DREW PARALLELS BETWEEN EVENTS IN INDOCHINA AND "FINAL VICTORY" OF PALESTINIANS.

7. QADHAFI SPOKE TO CLOSING SESSION OF SEMINAR MAY 17 AND REPEATED JALLUD'S CALL FOR FORMATION OF

PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT BASED IN LIBYA. HE ALSO MET
MAY 16 WITH ARAFAT, QADDUMI, AND ABU IYAD BEFORE
THEIR DEPARTURE FOR DAMASCUS.
STEIN

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